

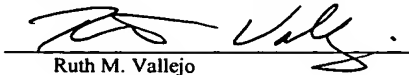
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10/8/03
Date


Ruth M. Vallejo

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA and John P. TURNER

Serial No.: To be assigned,
Divisional of 09/696,797

Filing Date: Even Date Herewith

For: MICROBIAL EXOPOLYSACCHARIDE
AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced case, please amend the specification as follows: